



# The Lighthouse Reflector

August 2, 2019

**“For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.”**

-- Jeremiah 29:11 KJV

**REMINDER San Diego Academy Pre-registration SUNDAY, AUG 4 from 9-2**



San Diego Academy

**Your child...**

- is known
- is loved

**BELONGS**

**Here.**

*Pre-registration Day*

**SUNDAY**  
**AUGUST 4, 2019**  
**9 a.m. - 2 p.m.**

# The Graduation and SENIOR newsletter



In publications class we decided to have a final newsletter that was dedicated to the three graduations and “all about seniors”. Five seniors who attended publications wrote about themselves or interviewed a fellow senior, and several other publications students also interviewed seniors. Iyonia suggested we also interview the current eighth graders if they had any questions for seniors. Nicole, a sophomore publications

student included “10 things I wish I knew before starting high school” and we passed this out to most of the eighth grade class but thought it would be nice to include in this newsletter. In the future, the publications class hopes to have a quarterly “alumni” newsletter highlighting memories from alumni or updates about their lives. Please stay in touch with us whether you currently attend the school or are just a part of our family. We are working on a brand new website for next school year that will feature current events and photo highlights throughout the year. We welcome your input as we move forward on each of these endeavors. Thank you for supporting our school!

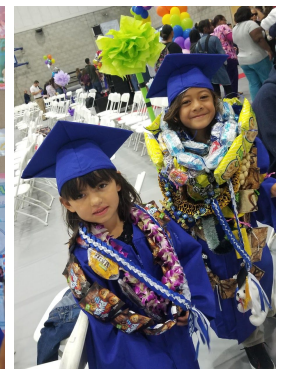
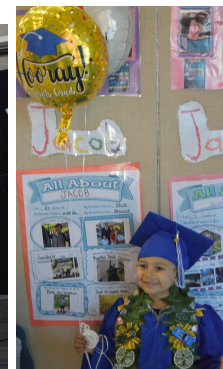
## Kindergarten Graduation



Wednesday, May 29, was the kindergarten class graduation. Mrs. Lindquist used the Dr. Seuss theme “Oh, the Places You’ll Go,” only with a spiritual twist. Ella welcomed the families, Audrey and Kalev saluted the flag and Aoibuen had opening prayer. The kindergarten



class sang “Standing in the Need of Prayer” and “He’s got the Whole World in His Hands”. Jeremiah, Jazmine and Amia shared some thoughts and Andrew and Jimmy introduced the slide show. The kindergarten students participated in a demonstration with colored ribbons reciting the poem they memorized “Colors”. Pastor Kevin Galeano shared a children’s story. Each child received his or her diploma with the assistance of principal Lindquist, vice principal Mayang, their teacher, Mrs. Lindquist and the teacher’s aide, Mrs. Hernandez. Mrs. Lindquist gave each student a copy of the book “Oh, the Places You’ll Go”, with spiritual messages added. The kindergarten class participated in a “Letter Pop” song to the tune of “Lollipop”, each holding a stick with a letter lollipop on it and sang “First Grade, First Grade!” to the tune of New York, New York. Jesse and Gideon offered final words and Jack had closing prayer.





# 8th Grade Graduation



Thursday, May 30th, was the eighth grade graduation ceremony. After the eighth graders marched in to the classic “Pomp and Circumstance, No. 4”, the principal, Nic Lindquist offered the invocation. Brenda Newby, their history teacher, welcomed all who attended. Lilia Albert, the class secretary, offered a tribute to parents with each graduating



eighth grader taking a fresh red carnation to their parents while a pre-recorded video played. The eighth graders had pre-recorded personalized messages to their families, sharing their gratitude and love for them. This was a tearful experience for participants and parents alike.

Rhonda Goso, the choir director, led the class in singing “A Million Dreams,” with solos, duets and the boys and girls singing separate parts, as well as together as a class.







Kiarra De Luna, the class president, offered an address to the class that included not only memories of their time together since kindergarten, but personalized thanks to each of their teachers through the a slideshow of together through memorable class and New York. school's Ebenezer who is pursue a position in Philadelphia. I many, many lives tenure here; my family is no and he will be sorely missed.



years. Next we enjoyed the eighth graders the years including the trip to Washington DC Felipe Lopez offered the appreciation for Mr. leaving the school to as a principal at a school know he has touched during his exception

Josephine Katula, the speaker. Kayla Bonita SDA church, the theme "Oh milestone will pass. know Jesus and



the class pastor, Malit, associate addressed the Snap!" and how She encouraged

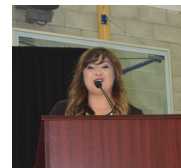


introduced pastor at class with quickly this the class to

stick to their class aim "Do not be afraid of going slowly, be only afraid of standing still" and to remember the value of their class motto "In our hands we hold today; in our dreams, we hold faith, we hold forever." reminder that with Jesus each of us we can stay David Roysdon, junior science and Bible teacher, consecration prayer. Next the principal offered a \$500 tuition credit as an award for students who had achieved



highest honors (a GPA of 3.75 or above).



tomorrow; in our What a beautiful living through together forever. high reading, offered the



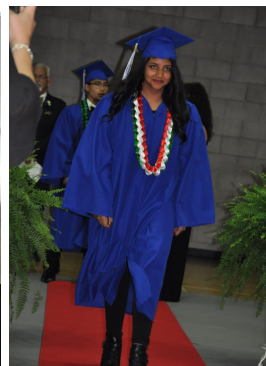
Jennifer Saravia, the class sponsor and junior high math and language arts teacher, presented the graduates. Nic Lindquist, principal, diplomas with Ms. Saravia and The principal acknowledged graders are now



presented the assistance by Mr. Roysdon. then the eighth in high school



and the current seventh graders were presented as the class of 2020. Josephine closed the ceremony with prayer.





# 12th Grade Graduation



San Diego Academy seniors participated in a weekend of graduation ceremonies May 31 through June 2 beginning with a consecration service at Bonita SDA Church on Friday night. Joshua Sevick began with invocation. Elisha Ponkratjevs read the scripture, 1 Thessalonians 4:10-12. The SDA Voyagers provided special music and Chip Gifford, the high school religion teacher, addressed the class with his message "You Want One?" Alexander Mayang, the class pastor offered his response

and Michaiah Williams closed the service with a benediction. On Sabbath, the seniors participated in the baccalaureate service at the Paradise Valley SDA Church. Ryan Moroney provided the call to worship. The Senior Praise Team lead the worship in song. Pastor Manlongat and principal Nic Lindquist welcomed everyone. Mari Ghebresillassie told the children's story. Rebeca Romero-Moreno and Leo Gallegos provided special music. Osmark Herrera gave the call for offering and Rebeca Romero-Moreno and Leo Gallegos provided the offertory. Amilton Beltran offered the sermon "Prelude". Josue Ramirez closed the service with a benediction. The commencement program finished off the weekend on Sunday, June 2. Jorge Ramirez offered the invocation. Delice Katula welcomed everyone. Alexander Mayang and Leo Gallegos provided special music. Alexander Mayang introduced the speaker, Pastor Will Penick. He offered the commencement address "Don't Forget Your Keys". class president, offered her presidential address. An interactive video highlighted visual memories of the seniors. Many thousands of dollars in scholarships were presented. Principal Nic Stephanie Mayang presented each student with the assistance of Ralph Tyrell, the Soli offered the benediction and the seniors marched out



address "Don't Forget Your Keys". class president, offered her presidential address. An interactive video highlighted visual memories of the seniors. Many thousands of dollars in scholarships were presented. Principal Nic Stephanie Mayang presented each student with the assistance of Ralph Tyrell, the Soli offered the benediction and the seniors marched out





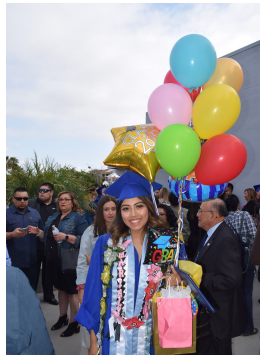
# PRESENTATION OF THE SENIOR CLASS OF 2020:



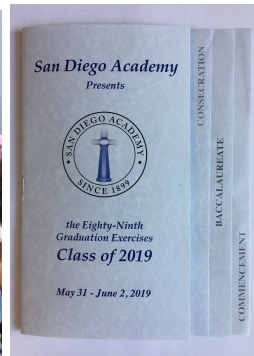
## Congratulations from family and friends











## Senior Interviews, Memories, and Advice

The publications students wrote about themselves (if they were seniors) or interviewed seniors with their memories and advice for new students.

### Interviews with Iyonia and Caitlin

*by Brandon Machado, senior publications student*

#### Iyonia



**Who was your favorite teacher?** Miss Saravia because I really enjoyed her teaching methods and she was fun to be around

**How could we best reach out to students?** The best way would be through the students. My younger self would be proud.

**What are you most grateful for about SDA?** Iyonia is most grateful for the people here in SDA because she felt like she was able to build a family and a good community. She was able to build connections with people that could help her with colleges and scholarships.

#### Caitlin



**What is your favorite memory at San Diego Academy?** Her favorite memory here as SDA was when she was in PE and she was running laps and she and Marialy decided to race, and collapsed on the floor and rolled into the mud.

**What are you glad you did?** She is glad that she came back to SDA because she was able to reunite with her friends as well as get closer to God.

**What advice do you have for new students?** She advises them to do your work and not leave it to the last minute don't flake on your friends and to trust God and He will guide you.



## Interview with Elisha

*by Sarai Ponkratjeva, 11th grade publications student, and Elisha's sister*



### **What was the most memorable experience that you had at SDA?**

Senior trip; my class is a class who is not particularly strong academically, but we have strong spirit and like to have fun.

### **Who was your favorite teacher?**

My favorite teacher is Mr. Shultz because he is very chill and also takes the time to help us if we need it. I wish we had more AP classes in general.

## Interview with Josh

*by Jason Seveck, 11th grade publications student, and Josh's brother*



### **What is your favorite memory from San Diego Academy?**

I liked the huge mob at Bible camp when we went from room to room chanting people's names. It really showed how even though we are from different schools we can all be related to each other and connect.

### **Who was your favorite teacher, why?**

Mr Shultz was my favorite teacher because he treated me with respect and like I was equal to him. He always took me and my thoughts seriously, but at the same time was able to have a lot of fun. He was also able to keep a very light-hearted atmosphere in his class. His classes felt like a family. It sounds cliché, but that's how it really was.

### **What are you known for, how would your classmates describe you?**

My classmates gave me the nickname 'Gretzky' because I like to talk about hockey. A lot of my classmates also know that I am very conservative and I'm not afraid to talk about my political opinions. I am also known for dancing in Ms. Leigh's class, and whistling very loud. \*note: He is not the only student that dances during his English class, it's a very active class.

### **What is the funniest memory you have from SDA?**

I think I liked the memory where Leo and I were singing very loudly in my car with the volume on MAX and my brother came around the corner and started dancing to it, but I also like the memory where on September 21 I started disco dancing in Ms. Leigh's class to "September" by Earth wind and fire.

### **Author's overview:**

Josh Seveck is a senior graduating this year, 2019. Josh came to this school the second semester of his sophomore year. He spent his freshman year and half his sophomore year at Granite Hills High School in El

Cajon, but he felt the Lord calling him. During the Thanksgiving break of his sophomore year, he convinced his parents to send him to the Academy.

While in public school, Josh had seen enough of the world to desire a private Christian education, and therefore leaped at the opportunity to attend the academy. From his first day, Josh always enjoyed the pleasant atmosphere the academy provided, free from the influence of the world. He admired the morality the school has managed to instill in their students that public school failed to teach.

The Academy turned out to be a good choice for him. Josh excelled in his classes thanks to his determination to learn and make the best of his circumstances. In his last two years, Josh has grown close to his teachers, especially Mr. Shultz, who helped show Josh what he wanted to do with his future.

After graduation, Josh plans to attend Walla Walla University in Washington state, and major in electrical engineering. The Academy was able to provide Josh with something more valuable than knowledge, it provided Josh with the mentors that allowed him to realize his dreams for the future. The groundwork laid for Josh's future was made possible by his desire for a Christian education, an education that God can work through.

## **Memories of San Diego Academy**

*by Josue Ramirez, senior publications student*



Since the moment that I was enrolled at San Diego Academy in 2007, I've always been surrounded by loving, thoughtful, and marvelous people. Being at this institution for thirteen years has really helped me grow and mature in many different ways alongside my lifelong friends, and for that, I am thankful. I believe that being at SDA has truly made me the person I am today due to amazing friends, teachers, mentors, alumni, and others that personally took the time to impact my life. Looking back on my years of school, I can definitely say that it was not perfect, but it was more than worth it. There were many ups and downs throughout elementary, middle school, and high school, but I was always fortunate enough to have people that picked me right back up. Being at the verge of graduation still seems so surreal to me; it feels like just yesterday that I was a confused freshman

trying to figure out which class was which and where to go next.

My high school experience was loads of fun from start to finish; so many memories were made along with amazing friendships that were built throughout the whole experience. Some of my favorite high school memories include winning the Loma Linda Football Tournament, participating in varsity soccer, coaching the middle school varsity basketball team my sophomore year, and participating in Mr. Gifford's Evolution Sunday. Although these are just a few of my memories here at SDA, they were amazing due to the people I was with. Another reason why high school was so great, was because I really got the chance to grow spiritually and form a closer relationship with God. Now that I have reached the end of one chapter of my life, I want to once again thank my teachers, friends, parents, and most importantly God for leading me through this whole journey.



## Interview with Mari

by Keren Moradel, 11th grade publications student



**What is your favorite memory of SDA?** Basketball and also PE during my Junior year

**What are you glad you did?** I'm glad that I actually participated in the high school activities such as banquet

**How would you describe your class?** My class is close and diverse

**What are you most grateful for about SDA?** For forcing me out of my comfort zone.

**Who was your favorite teacher? Why?** My favorite teacher is Mr. Clark, because he was easily approachable and nice. It was fun jamming with him (referring to drums)

## Reflections on My Senior Year

by Marialy Cuz, senior publications student



When I first started high school I couldn't wait to be a senior, and now that I am one, I realize it wasn't everything I expected it to be. Senior year is nothing like the movies and towards the end it gets stressful deciding what you want to do with your future but I would say that I have had lots of fun this year. I have created friendships over the four years that could last a lifetime. I am excited to graduate and pursue all my hopes and dreams.

## Reflections on My Time at San Diego Academy and Beyond

by Michaiah Williams, senior publications student



Hello my name is Michaiah Williams. I am a Senior here at San Diego Academy. I have attended San Diego Academy for 13 years (since Kindergarten).

I am really happy to be graduating. I will miss many things about the school. I will miss my teachers, my friends and just the familiarity of attending San Diego Academy. But I am also very excited about attending La Sierra University in the Fall. I am going to begin taking classes to become a teacher.

Throughout my time here at San Diego Academy, I have learned how to overcome adversity and challenges that may come my way. I have grown spiritually and academically through these times here. I am ready to begin the college journey to see what Jesus has in store for me as I transition to adulthood.

## My Experience at San Diego Academy

by Osmark Herrera, senior publications student



Throughout my years at San Diego Academy I have learned various important things will help me become a better person in all aspects of life. Mr. Gifford is one of the teachers that has impacted my life in a positive way with the assignments he gives us and with his advice. I am very glad I came to this school. It has made me a better person and I have grown with my classmates here and matured together.

There came a point in high school where I got worried. I did not have the best grades, and wasn't motivated or inspired to do something about it. I was worried that I wasn't going to get accepted into a university. My failing grades were telling me that my schooling life ended in high school, that my future was uncertain, but not at all promising. Then I decided to do something about it. My grades began to improve, and by the time the second semester of my junior year came to an end, I began to realize that I was qualified and ready for college.

My senior year started with a few questions. The most important of them: what college am I going to go to? After much thought, I decided to apply to a private pilot school. After a while, I received information that I had been accepted. For the most part, I was excited to tell my parents the news because I have never wanted to disappoint them. I got accepted into the only school I applied to and I haven't had regrets since. I tried and studied very hard and my work and my dedication is what was able to get me accepted.



## Interview with Ryan

by Amy Sosa, 11th grade publications student



**Who long have you attended SDA** 13 Years

**What things have you learned at SDA?** I became a better leader through SA, sports, and praise band. With the help of my peers and teachers, I have learned to trust the Lord in everything I do.

**What do you plan to do after you graduate?** After I graduate, I plan on taking a nice break from school while, at the same time, getting ready to go to Walla Walla University and continuing my education.

**What are you going to study after high school?** After high school, I am going to Walla Walla University and will study Civil Engineering.

**In what ways have you helped your community?** I have well over the required 100 hours of community service by volunteering at churches, homeless shelters, and through mission trips.

**What are you most grateful for about SDA?** The faculty and staff were always there to help me before and after school.

They guided me academically and spiritually.

**What classes did you enjoy most?** I enjoyed AP Calculus with Mr. Shultz most, but most classes are also very enjoyable.

**What sports did you play?** I played varsity flag football, soccer, and volleyball all four years.

**What is something you wish you did or something you wish someone had told you when coming into high school?** I wish somebody gave me the advice of getting involved in everything. I was involved with mostly everything in school except for a few things but those few things made a big difference when I became involved with them in my later years of high school.

**Out of the 13 years that you have been at SDA, what year was your favorite?** My favorite year of my 13 years is definitely senior year, because of the classes I was able to take and all of the things I was able to get involved with.

**What advice do you have for those still coming into high school?** Get involved in everything you can. Attend all the events and run for class or SA offices. Have fun but stay focused.

## 10 Things I Wish I Knew Before Starting High School

*list compiled by Nicole Vidal, 10th grade publications student, passed out to 8th graders this year*

### 1. Make Memories

Life goes very fast. High school is the time to make new friends, try new things, take risks, and explore!

### 2. Freshman year grades DO matter. GPA...GPA...

You will regret not trying hard from the very beginning. You have it inside you to be the best version of yourself. If you build strong study habits in high school, you will only carry your habits with you into the future.

### 3. Friends will COME and friends will GO.

It's great to think that friends will last forever, but high school is where people start to change, and your friends will change—just like you will also change. Friends are only friends as long as you make each other mutually happy. You must be in control of your own life and your own happiness.

### 4. Taking time to study every day will feel much better in the long run.

### 5. Get involved with sports and activities.

The only way to explore what you like to do and what fulfills you is to go out there and try new things. It's also the best way to meet a variety of different people. But do what YOU love, not what others love.

### 6. Ask for help.

### 7. Take time to enjoy the world, not on your phone.

Put down the phone, and just soak in the world around you. Talk to people face to face and really interact with society instead of always hiding behind a screen. Too many moments can slip away right under your nose.

### 8. Mistakes do not define who you are.

### 9. Putting in a little studying time every day will feel much better in the long run.

### 10. Not everyone is going to like you, and that's OK!

People will always talk and be quick to judge, but you cannot, in the right mind, succeed if you pay them any heed. It's more important what you think of yourself, as the people that matter the most in your life will always have your back. Knowing that God loves you and liking who you are is all that matters.



**PFE/ASSIST applications available in the office.** Preference will be given to those who have

- 1) showed commitment and consistency last year
- 2) turned in end-of-year surveys for themselves and their mentors
- 3) financial need
- 4) turned in applications earliest

**\*\*Please note ALL students who want to participate, even returning participants, must attend the orientation**  
**Students who participated last year can begin acquiring visitation hours in AUGUST**

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## **San Diego Academy Calendar of Events**

Messiah's Mansion guided tour at San Diego Academy.. July 27-Aug 4 1-7 pm.  
Pre-Registration.....Sunday, August 4 9 a.m.-2 p.m.  
FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL 2019-2020 .....Thursday, August 22  
School Dedication.....Friday, August 23  
Back to School Night.....Thursday, August 29 at 6 p.m.  
Community Health Advocacy Training at the academy....Fri Aug 30-Sun Sept

1

Labor Day NO SCHOOL.....Monday, September 2  
PFE/ASSIST Orientation REQUIRED for participation.Thursday, Sept 5 at 6pm  
Junior High Welcome Back activity.....Friday, September 6  
S.A. Beach Vespers.....Friday, September 6 at 6

p.m.

Iowa Testing.....Monday, Sept 16 thru Friday, Sept

20

Midterm.....September 25  
Student Leadership camp at Leoni Meadows..Thurs, Sept 26-Sabbath Sept 28  
College fair for high school.....Thursday, September 26 at 1:30 p.m.  
In service day NO SCHOOL.....Monday, September 30  
Jog-a-Thon.....Friday, October 4  
S.A. Beach Day.....Friday, October

4

**Messiah's Mansion full scale model of the Mosaic  
Sanctuary with FREE guided tours on display at  
San Diego Academy  
Now through August 4 from 1 - 7 p.m.**

The Gospel In Symbols

**FREE ADMISSION!**



A full-scale model of the Mosaic Sanctuary,  
the size you would have seen if you were alive in the days of Moses!

**Location**

San Diego Academy  
2800 E 4th Street  
National City, CA 91950

**FREE Guided Tours**

Begin every 15 minutes  
and last 75 minutes.

**On Display**

July 27 - August 4, 2019  
1:00-7:00pm daily

Programs and tours will be available  
in Spanish and English.

Book Tent available for additional study resources.



**Vacation Bible School** this week at Paradise Valley SDA church  
**Monday 7/29 to Friday 8/2 from 5:30-8:00**  
bring your children to participate and join the marriage/family/  
parenting class while you wait (flyer details below)



**A Call to Personal Ministry...Calling all Adventists to RALLY...Health** the opening wedge to finish the work...Unifying all local SDA churches to work together through service and sharing God's love..learn more during the **Community Health Advocacy Training orientation**...join the movement, connect with your peers, bring family closer together, unite the churches, improve your health and serve your local community. This is a long-term plan that begins with phase 1, Revival, The Great Health Controversy...awaken the watchmen "Christ as the center of the health message".

## chat Community Engagement Zones

CHAT and Southern New England/Northeastern Conferences are building Community Engagement Zones (CEZ) with major Eastern cities serving as hubs. Each zone is comprised of Adventist churches, within thirty to forty minutes of each other, whose members are trained to use health-focused, outreach activities to improve community-wide, health outcomes. Trained Health Advocates work in close-knit units to present health principles to

residents during the Outreach Phases (3 – 5) of the Cycle of Engagement. Advocates also seek to establish long-term, collaborative relationships with Community Stakeholders Groups (i.e., Government, Education, Civic and Faith Organizations, etc.) who support our efforts to reach broader, community audiences by co-sponsoring regularly-scheduled, programming designed to educate the public.

Community Engagement Zone structures enable the Seventh-day Adventist Church's membership to harmonize time and talent to "reach the people"—sustainably. CEZs bring even greater order and system to educating, equipping, and empowering the laity to effectively promote healthful, balanced living. THE TRUST, a New York-based, health advocacy organization oversees the consensus-driven process used to build Community Engagement Zone churches' capacity to organize themselves to present health principles that make Adventists... "the longest living Americans."

For more information, contact THE TRUST at 978.612.6699.

Over the past ten years, the Beehive developed and tested our laity-centered, laity-driven, Cycle of Engagement designed to accomplish three (3), primary objectives:

- 1 Train and equip churches using an affordable, user-friendly learning platform.
- 2 Trigger a wave of revival throughout Adventism that fosters sustainable, health-focused community engagement/outreach and authentic relationship building; and finally,
- 3 Unite the efforts of ministers, lay people, and Adventist Healthcare Professionals in a comprehensive, yet practical, engagement strategy that is scalable and sustainable.

### Phase 1: Revival – The Great Health Controversy

The Great Health Controversy (GHC) Weekend is all about... REVIVAL! Traditional health seminars focus on diet and lifestyle. GHCs "awake the watchmen" by re-introducing Christ as "the Center" of the Health Message!

These multimedia presentations clearly define and highlight the Righteousness of Christ, the Adventist Lifestyle, and the inseparable relationship between Health and the Gospel - two sides of the same, evangelistic coin. The 3-day event is specifically-designed to Revive, Galvanize, and Mobilize Adventist congregations to serve as change agents in their communities. Participants are encouraged to enroll in CHAT training. This will prepare teams from several Adventist churches within near geographic proximity (Community Engagement Zones) to provide solutions for "ministering" to people's "felt needs."

*continued on the next page*

